

original MS. of Abbot's "Notes on my Life", still in the custody of the M.C.Z., in which he relates that he "was born in the Year 1751, the first of June Old Stile, at the West end of the Town London, in Bennet Street St James, my father was an Attorney at Law".

Bennet Street still exists. One block long, it runs west from St. James's Street into Arlington Street. A search in the baptismal records of St. George's, Hanover Square, which would have been Abbot's parish church, revealed that John Abbot, son of John and Ann Abbot, was born on 31st May, 1751 and baptised on 9th June. Either Abbot erred in the recollection of his birth date by one day, or the parish record (established at his baptism) did so. At any rate, we now have new data about the birth of one of the most interesting of 18th century naturalists in America, with conclusive evidence concerning his parents' names. — RONALD S. WILKINSON, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

## Obituaries

**WILLIAM HENRY STOREY, O.B.E.**

**(1905-1975)**

With the death on 7th January, 1975 of Bill Storey at the age of 69, yet another distinguished field lepidopterist has been taken from us with unexpected suddenness. It was with great grief and shock for all who knew him that he passed away at his home at Great Bealings, near Ipswich, following a severe heart attack, though he had been apparently in his usual good health until then.

He was born at Bromley in Kent in 1905 and after early education at Tenterden went on to Tonbridge School. It was between the wars that he became intensely interested in the British lepidoptera, obtaining a great deal of his knowledge about our many species from that great mentor, Dr. E. A. Cockayne, whom he often accompanied on field outings. By the outbreak of the second war he had already built up a very comprehensive collection of our butterflies and the macro-moths.

After a short period in the advertising business he joined in 1938 the well-known firm of Messrs. Pye, the scientific instrument makers, based on Cambridge. Television was then in its infancy and it was this side that Bill Storey helped to develop when war service broke into his career. He served in the Royal Corps of Signals and held the rank of Captain when he was captured at the fall of Singapore. He remained a prisoner in Malaya until 1945 and used to tell many stories of his experiences at the hands of the Japanese. He rejoined Pye's in 1947 and during the next twenty years travelled to many parts of the world on their behalf, eventually becoming a director and leading executive of the Company. For his out-

standing services in furthering the sale of British scientific instruments abroad he was awarded the O.B.E. in 1968.

It was in this post-war period while living in the vicinity of Cambridge that Bill Storey was able to make a thorough survey of the lepidoptera of that area and he published several notes in the 1950s in this Journal on his more interesting and unexpected records. The Stout Dart (*Spaelotis ravida*) was one of his local specialities. He did not seem to collect much far afield nor on his visits overseas. It was on his retirement from his professional duties in 1969 that he went to live at Great Bealings, in Suffolk. This proved an ideal spot for him to run his mercury vapour trap and sample the insects of a new area which he did to great advantage for the next five seasons. During this period he obtained a good many species which were scarce in that part of England, including the White Speck (*Leucania unipuncta*) and in 1974 probably the only Striped Hawk (*Celerio livornica*) recorded in Britain that year. But his most remarkable capture taken there in 1971 was a halved gynandromorph of the Barred Red (*Ellopiia fasciaria*).

He joined the then South London Entomological Society as far back as 1924 and was about to be made an honorary member on his completion of fifty years of membership. He also latterly belonged to the Suffolk Naturalists' Society of which he became a keen supporter.

His untimely end has indeed robbed the entomological world of one of its most enthusiastic adherents. Of the most happy and kindly nature he will be greatly mourned and missed not only by a large number of colleagues in the scientific sphere, but also by a great many friends with similar interests in natural history. It is certain that the whole-hearted sympathy of this large company will have gone out to his widow, four daughters and other surviving members of his family in their irreparable loss. — C.G.M. de W.

### CHARLES ALBAN WILLIAM DUFFIELD, M.C (1887-1974)

There must be many collectors of our lepidoptera who used to visit Alban Duffield at his home with its superb setting beneath the downs at Brook, near Wye, in Kent and most of them will probably have sampled or observed the rich fauna and flora of those wonderful surroundings where he passed away on 9th December, 1974 at the advanced age of 87. For for half a century he had studied all branches of nature around him there and in particular entomology.

He was born in June 1887 at Cranleigh in Surrey, his father being a schoolmaster in Holy Orders. He went on to Cambridge University in 1908 and then as a student to the Agricultural College at Wye where he joined the staff in 1919 as a lecturer and expert entomologist after serving in the Royal West Kent Regiment during the latter part of the 1914 War. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1917. In 1931 he left the